

Message Text

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FOR CU/EA - DAVID HITCHCOCK

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TAGS: OEXC, JA

SUBJECT: ANNUAL MEETING OF AACRAO

REF: STATE 087466

SINCE AACRAO AUDIENCE COMPOSED MAINLY OF ADMISSIONS PEOPLE, AREA DIRECTOR IN NOTING TWENTY FIVE YEAR DEVELOPMENT MAY WISH TO MENTION FOLLOWING IN PRESENTATION ON JAPAN PROGRAM:

OVERALL EXCHANGES BETWEEN JAPAN AND U.S.

1. GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR AMERICANS TO STUDY/RESEARCH IN JAPAN HAVE INCREASED GREATLY COMPARED TO 25 YEARS AGO WHEN FULBRIGHT WAS ONLY MEANS. NOW, THERE ARE JAPAN FOUNDATION, DHEW, SSRC, TOYOTA, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION GRANTS MAINLY FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS. TOTAL GRANTS SOMEWHERE BETWEEN 70-100.

2. GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR JAPANESE TO STUDY/RESEARCH IN U.S. INCREASED SLIGHTLY BUT NOT ALWAYS OPEN COMPETITION.

3. EXCHANGE PROGRAMS BETWEEN JAPANESE AND AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES HAVE ALSO INCREASED. THESE ARE USUALLY FOR JUNIOR YEAR OR SUMMER STUDY. NO STATISTICS AVAILABLE.

4. AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS HAVE STEPPED UP RECRUITMENT OF STUDENTS IN JAPAN, ESPECIALLY PREP SCHOOLS, SMALL

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LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGES AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAMS. IN

CONSULTING USEC/J, THEY ARE ADVISED TO CONSIDER FOLLOWING POINTS: WHETHER OVERALL EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES OF STUDENT ARE IN CONCERT WITH INSTITUTIONS; REALISTIC ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT'S GOALS, ACADEMIC PREPARATION, ENGLISH PROFICIENCY; STUDENT'S CHANCES FOR EMPLOYMENT UPON RETURN; BEING CAREFUL IN WORKING WITH COMMERCIAL AGENCIES IN JAPAN.

5. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION AND ADVICE ON STUDYING IN U.S. HAVE INCREASED FROM 29,000 IN 1974 TO 46,000 IN 1975 BY USEC/J ALONE. ONLY TWO OTHER PRIVATE, NON-COMMERCIAL AGENCIES FELT TO BE RELIABLE.

FULBRIGHT PROGRAM

1. IN EARLY YEARS, COVERED ALL FIELDS OF STUDY. MOST GRANTS WERE TRAVEL GRANTS WITH AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS PROVIDING TUITION AND MAINTENANCE. NUMBERS RANGED FROM 200-300 PER YEAR UP TO 1967. SITUATION NOW CHANGED AND MOST GRANTS ARE ALL-EXPENSE, THOUGH JAPANESE GRADUATE STUDENTS STILL WELCOMED WITH FELLOWSHIPS AT SOME MAJOR INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS CORNELL, SYRACUSE, JOHNS HOPKINS, PENNSYLVANIA.

2. SINCE 1969, SHARPER FOCUSING ELIMINATING NATURAL AND APPLIED SCIENCES. NOW EMPHASIS ON SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES, PLUS INCLUSION OF PRACTICING JOURNALISTS.

3. INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS SUCCESSFULLY INITIATED IN 1975, BUT WILL BE DROPPED.

4. ALTHOUGH TOTAL GRANTS PER YEAR NOW AROUND 80, FULBRIGHT NAME STILL CARRIES GREAT PRESTIGE IN JAPANESE ACADEMIA.

5. FUTURE PROGRAM WILL REMAIN ESSENTIALLY SAME DEPENDING ON DIRECTION THAT JAPAN-U.S. FRIENDSHIP COMMISSION TAKES. PROGRAMS EXPECTED TO COMPLEMENT RATHER THAN DUPLICATE.

FOREIGN STUDENT PROBLEMS

1. LANGUAGE, BUT USEC/J HAS NOTED DEFINITE IMPROVEMENT IN UNCLASSIFIED

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RECENT YEARS REFLECTED IN HIGHER TOEFL SCORES AND INTERVIEWS. SUMMER ORIENTATION AND SOME U.S. TRAINING STILL NECESSARY, HOWEVER.

2. RE-ENTRY CAREER PROBLEMS BEING MINIMIZED AT LEAST FOR FULBRIGHT GRANTEES SINCE ONLY ADVANCED GRADUATE STUDENTS WITH ESTABLISHED MENTOR STUDENT TIES BEING SELECTED. PROBLEM EMPHASIZED BY ECS IN COUNSELING NON-SPONSORED STUDENTS.

3. MOST FULBRIGHT GRANTEES WHO REMAIN AFTER INITIAL
TWO-YEAR SUPPORT MANAGE TO RECEIVE UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIPS.

4. NON-RETURNEES NOT MAJOR PROBLEM FOR JAPAN.
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